A&M's Food Service Director Retiring - p. 8





"If you haven't got it, you can't show it. If you have got it, you can't hide it." - Zora Neale Hurston



Legacy Center Plans Mardi Gras Ball

The Legacy Center will hold the Legacy Boule' "Mardi Gras Ball." The event will talk place on Fat Tuesday, February 21, at 6:30 p.m.

The Ball will be held at Stovehouse - The Royal, located at 3414 Governors Drive SW, Huntsville, Ala. The honorees for this inaugural event include Rev. Dr. Julius R. Scruggs, pastor emeritus of First Missionary Baptist Church; Hon. Laura Hall, Alabama State Representative, District 19: and Loretta Spencer, former mayor of Huntsville.

provided by Ayanna Jahnee, the Nashville, Tenn., native who gained notoriety as a promising contestant on

Season 10 of "The Voice." Dinner will be highlighted by famed Chef Boyce.

Tickets are \$200 and can be purchased at www.LiveYourLegacyHere.com.

Rosetta James Foundation Day Gala Changes VBC Venue

The Rosetta James Foundation will hold its first "Honoring Our Elders" Celebration since the COVID-19 pandemic that forced the shutdown of numerous places and events in March 2020.

The 2023 event will recognize 18 men and women (some posthumously) who have demonstrated volunteerism continuously beyond their 70th birthdays. Thus, the 15th annual day gala will be held March 11 at the Von Braun Center's East Hall at 12

This represents a minor room change from the previous announcement of South Hall to allow participants to better maneuver the VBC's multiple events.

The Foundation also awards scholarships to college students who maintain an active collegiate schedule that includes volunteerism.

Honorees for 2023 include the following: Mrs. Edna E. Davis Brown (posthumously), former nurse's aide;

Mrs. Maureen Davis Cathey, retired student account supervisor; Mr. Allen Cothron, retired Army education facilitator; Mrs. Marie Ann Waters Cothron, retired Spanish teacher; Mrs. Ida Crawford, retired public school librarian; Mrs. Gloria Dawson (posthumous), retired educator; Mrs. Ruby Dickson, former administrative assistant; Mrs. Bettye Dixie, retired career counselor; Mrs. Sarah Drake, retired educator; Mrs. Mary Ann Flowers, retired

educator; Mrs. Ruby Ford, retired accountant; Dr. Parker Griffith, physician; Mrs. Bhavani Kakani, community and health advocate; Mr. Richard **Knight,** veterans advocate; Dr. Prince Preyer, retired educator/commissioner; Dr. Horace Rice, retired educator/ arbitrator; Dr. Cynthia Smith, former educator/administrator; and Mr. LaVern Spearman, retired senior physicist.

For more information, visit www.rosettajamesfoundation.

Tuskegee to Host Regional Alumni Conference in Huntsville

The 64th Southeast Regional Conference of the Tuskegee National Alumni Association will convene

July 20-23 at the Embassy Suites & Spa, located in Downtown Huntsville, Ala. Darlene Minniefield,

regional urban Extension agent, of Florence, Ala., serves as the regional vice president. The theme is

"Celebrating Our Tuskegee Treasures: The Sky Is Not the Limit."

by Lamar A. Braxton, Jr.



"Jahni" Moore's PowerShots, Page 4 Entertainment will be Valley Events, Page 4 tim allston: Perspectives, Page 5 Millennial Moment, Page 5 RJF Sponsors, Page 7

Transit Plan Recommends Sunday Service

The City of Huntsville's fixed-route and paratransit service will see significant enhancements over the next few years, including the possibility of Sunday service and extended hours, according to Huntsvilleal.gov.

The suggestions are part of a new Transit Improvement Plan, the culmination of several months of analy-

sis by Huntsville Transit and public transportation consultant Nelson\ Nygaard. Feedback gathered from a broad range of stakeholders also informed the final five-phase plan.

Public feedback yielded several service recommendations, including service on Sunday, more frequent service and later service. Riders also want service to new areas as well as new crosstown service.

Expanded paratransit service, improved pedestrian crossings and bus stops, and potential partnerships with universities and colleges were also recommended.

Visit HuntsvilleAL.gov/ Transit to learn more about Huntsville Transit's current routes and service times.

alley Weekly

The Valley Weekly, LLC

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Washington in One Minute



Here are the happenings in Washington, D.C., this week:

1. CONGRESS. The Senate is in session this week, while the House is taking a 2-week Presidents' Day Recess until Feb. 27. On Tuesday at 10:00 a.m., the Senate Banking Committee will hold a hearing on the cryptocurrency crash and why financial system safeguards are needed for digital assets. Last Thursday, the House voted 419-0 approving a resolution condemning the Chinese Communist Party's use of a high-altitude surveillance balloon as "a brazen violation of United States sovereignty" (in related news, last Wednesday at a joint press conference in Washington D.C., Secretary of State Antony Blinken and NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg criticized China over its network of suspected spy balloons that they claim spans 5 continents).

2. THE WHITE HOUSE. Next Monday (Feb. 20), President Biden will travel to Poland, 4 days before the 1-year anniversary of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, to meet with Polish President Andrzej Duda. Last Friday, the President issued a notice that he will be terminating the national

emergency concerning the COVID-19 pandemic on May 11, 2023. This Thursday, the President, who turned 80 on Nov. 20, will have his annual physical. First Lady Jill Biden, who attended Sunday's Superbowl in Glendale, AZ, on Monday visited nearby Mesa Community College. On Friday, the First Lady will visit Ivy Tech Community College in Valparaiso, IN. On Thursday, Vice President Kamala Harris will be in Germany for the Munich Security Conference. Last Friday, Ben LaBolt started his new job as White House Communications Director, replacing Kate Bedingfield. LaBolt, who becomes the first openly gay person in this job, is an Obama/Biden campaign alum and worked on Capitol Hill for Sen. Brown (D-OH), then-Sen. Obama (D-IL) and Rep. Schakowsky (D-IL).

3. SUPREME COURT. The Supreme Court has no arguments scheduled until Feb. 21-22, when it will hear a pair of widely anticipated cases of whether Google and Twitter can be held liable for content (despite the general liability shield they enjoy under Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act of 1996) when their algorithms target users and recommend someone

else's content. The cases are Gonzalez v. Google (Feb. 21) and Twitter v. Taamneh (Feb. 22). The next week, the court will hear back-to-back oral arguments on Feb. 28 in a pair of challenges to the Biden Administration's studentloan forgiveness program (Department of Education v. Brown and Biden v. Nebraska).

4. HEALTHCARE WORK-FORCE. On Feb. 16 at 10:00 a.m., the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee will hold a full committee hearing entitled "Examining Health Care Workforce Shortages: Where Do We Go From Here?." The witnesses for the for the hearing will include James Herbert PhD, President, University of

New England, Biddeford, ME; James E.K. Hildreth Sr., PhD, MD, President and CEO, Meharry Medical College, Nashville, TN; Sarah Szanton PhD, RN, FAAN, Dean, Johns Hopkins School of Nursing, Baltimore, MD; Leonardo Seoane MD, FACP, Chief Academic Officer, New Orleans, LA; Douglas Staiger PhD, Professor, Professor, Hanover, NH. The hearing will be available here.

5. HOUSE WEAPONIZA-TION SUBCOMMITTEE. Last Thursday, the new House Select Subcommittee on the Weaponization of the Federal Government had its first hearing, at which Chair Jim Jordan (R-OH) opened the hearing claiming to have received testimony from over 12 FBI whistleblowers who

said they witnessed abuses of power at the bureau for political motives. The subcommittee, which was created by the House GOP leadership to focus government oversight on federal agencies that it claims have been politicized, will also be investigating the Justice Department, Homeland Security Department, and the IRS. In addition, former Rep. Tulsi Gabbard (D-HI) testified as a GOP witness about being accused of lying by Sen. Mitt Romney (R-UT) over claims she made about Ukraine last year.

Hamm Consulting Group 444 North Capitol Street, NW Suite 840 Washington D.C. 20001 T: 202-596-8384 rhamm@hammconsulting. com

This Sunday's Lectionary



Sunday, February 19, 2023 Last Sunday After the Epiphany

(Track 2, Year A) Exodus 24:12-18 Psalm 2 or 99 2 Peter 1:16-21 Matthew 17:1-9



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VALLEY DEATHS



NELMS MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME

2501 Carmichael Avenue NW Huntsville, AL 35816 - (256) 539-8189

Graveside service for MR. ANDREW J. ("KITTY") FEARN (b. 1952) was held Monday, February, 13, at Valley View Memorial Gardens with Pastor Hernandez Ford officiating.

Funeral service for MR. CHRISTOPHER D. SANDIFER (b. 1977) was held Sunday, February 12, at Zion Progress Missionary Baptist Church with Pastor Hernandez Ford officiat-

Funeral service for MR. JOSEPH J. TARVER (b. 1989) was held Sunday, February 12, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. at Compassion Ministries with Pastor Wilma Burton officiating.

Funeral service for MR. DASHAUN FLOYD (b. 2001) was held Saturday, February 11, at Union Hill Primitive Baptist Church with Elder Dr. Oscar L. Montgomery, Sr. officiating.

ROYAL FUNERAL HOME

4315 Oakwood Avenue NW Huntsville, AL 35810 - (256) 534-8481

Funeral service for MRS. LIZZY MAE CLEM-ONS (b. 1953) will be 1 p.m., Friday, February 17, at the Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church (315 Winchester Rd NE Ste A, Huntsville, AL 35811) with Pastor Patrick Arrington as the eulogist and Dr. O. Wendell Davis officiating.



Funeral service for MS. JEWELL BROOKS (b. 1967) was held Monday, February 13, at the Royal Chapel of Memories with Reverend Michael Mastin officiating.



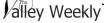
Memorial service for ELDER THOMAS MARSHALL KELLY will be 12:30 p.m., Friday, February 17, at the Oakwood Seventh-Day Adventist Church with Mr. Eric Marshall Kelly as the eulogist and Pastor Debleaire Snell officiating.

Funeral service for REV. MITCHELL LEE REED (b. 1952) will be 12 p.m., Saturday, February 18, at the New Beginnings Christian Church (604 Jordan Ln NW, Huntsville, AL) with Pastor Errol Davis officiating.

SERENITY FUNERAL HOME

2505 University Drive NW Huntsville, AL 35816 (256) 539-9693

Funeral service for OFFIE "BUTTON" LOCKHART (b. 1957) was held Tuesday, February 7, at Serenity Funeral Home. Please visit website for updates at www.serenityfuneralhm.com



IT'S TIME TO TELL THE TRUTH!

Ephesians 4:25 says, "Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor, for we are all members of one body."

You know, we all live in the same nation under God; however, we all see this country in a different way. In other words, some people see our country through the "lens" of truth, based on facts. While others view our country through the

lens that is" blurred" with hatred, assumptions and conspiracy theories. You see, when we support lies and conspiracy theories, it will only lead to chaos, confusion and destruction.

I believe that this is very important for the people in this country. Because our nation is based on a democracy which involves freedom of speech; however, the only way to debate a democracy is to base our beliefs and opinions on facts not lies.

Also, we need to figure out ways of "fact finding"

people's opinions so that we can hold people accountable, as well as being accountable ourselves. However, so many people refuse to accept and speak the truth. Now, why is this? 2 Thessalonians 2:10-12 explains it this way: "People perish because they refuse to love the truth and so be saved. For this

reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness."

My brothers and sisters, as we go through life, let us make sure that we support the teachings of Jesus Christ that are always

A CHAMPION GAME PLAN grounded in the truth. Now. more than ever, it is time to tell

the truth, the

whole truth and

nothing but the truth ... so help us God.

Stay encouraged and be safe. Make sure you purchase a copy of my book, "A Champion Game Plan for Life," at amazon.com.

Huntsville City

Council Meetings

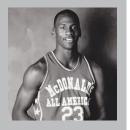
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FEBRUARY 17 - MICHAEL JORDAN - Michael Jeffrey Jordan aka MJ, is an American former professional basketball player and the principal owner of the Charlotte Hornets of the National Basketball Association (NBA). He played 15 seasons

in the NBA, winning six championships with the Chicago Bulls. NBA website: "By acclamation ... the greatest basketball player of all time." - BlackCelebrityBirthdays.com



Huntsville City Council's regular meetings are held in the City Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 6 p.m.

Council work sessions are also held in the Chambers of the Municipal Building on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 6 p.m.

For more information, call (256) 427-5011.



2505 University Dr. NW Huntsville, Alabama 35816 (256) 539, 9693

A New Generation Of Service

VALLEY EVENTS

HAPPENINGS ACTIVITIES & MORE

February 16

Stand Up Live Huntsville Featuring: Tim Shropshire Alton Walker Ria Brent 2012 Memorial Parkway SW Hunsville, Ala.

February 17

Extension Open House James I. Dawson Building Alabama A&M University Contact: andrea.morris@aamu.edu; (256) 372-8082 9 a.m.-12 noon

BLACK HISTORY
MONTH FILM FESTIVAL: Black Resistance in
Alabama and Beyond
FILM: "Lowndes County
and the Road to Black
Power"
Sponsors: Office of
Student Activities and
Leadership and Develop-

Archives Research Center and Museum Clyde Foster Auditorium 10 a.m.

ment and the State Black

BLACK HISTORY
MONTH FILM FESTIVAL: Black Resistance in
Alabama and Beyond
FILM: "Emancipation"
Sponsors: Office of
Student Activities and
Leadership and Development and the State Black
Archives Research Center
and Museum
Clyde Foster Auditorium

2 p.m.

February 20

"Black-Owned Businesses Are Struggling in the Black Community" Speaker: April Hodges, Founder, Red Clay Strategies Buchanan Hall Auditorium 12-1 p.m.

Alabama A&M University Honors Program
The Dilemma of Civil
Disobedience: Debate &
Discussion
The Honors Speech &
Debate Society will engage in IPDA style of debate on the topic of civil disobedience, followed by open discussion.
Knight Center
5:30 p.m.

February 21

"Health Care and the Black Community" Speaker: Tim Nolen, Thrive Alabama Buchanan Hall Auditorium 12:30-1:30 p.m.

February 22

"Poverty, the Legal System and the Black Vote" Speaker: Kimberly Rucker Buchanan Hall Auditorium 12-1 p.m.

February 22-26

91st South Eastern Regional Conference

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated (Tennessee, Mississippi and Alabama)
Huntsville, Ala.

February 24

An Evening of Black History"
Councill Social
Music, Movie and Food
Councill Hall
5 p.m.-Until

March 11

Rosetta James Foundation "Honoring Our Elders" Day Gala Von Braun Center East Hall 12 noon www.rosettajamesfoundation.org (256) 536-9717

March 25

Garden Prep for Spring Huntsville Botanical Garden 4747 Bob Wallace Avenue SW Huntsville, Ala. \$35-\$60 10 a.m.-12 noon www.hsvbg.org

Huntsville Havoc "Military Night Von Braun Center 7 p.m.

April 1

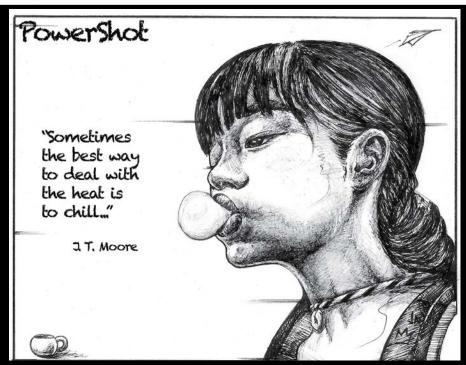
The 3rd Annual Women's Expo Event Von Braun Center Huntsville, Ala. 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

April 3-9

Oakwood Alumni Homecoming Celebrating the 3s and 8s

May 20

Rocket City BBQ & Soul Fest 6001 Pulaski Pike NW Huntsville, Ala.



"If you look at what you have in life, you'll always have more. If you look at what you don't have in life, you'll never have enough."

- Oprah Winfrey





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Reimagine Your Future

Take It Back ...

At Alabama A&M University, I was privileged to be a part of the Marching Maroon & White Band! This was when we took over more than half the field. We came in droves! The sound would blow you out of the stadium. The auxiliary was thick and plentiful. I had a director, Mr. Arthur Wesley, who, while practicing, would get us to learn his creation by hollering, "Take it Back!" After hours and hours of practice, this would be a bit draining. We were pushing, sweating, and practicing despite our legs feeling like spaghetti and our arms hurting. By game time, we had it down tight!

See, he was preparing us! It was in that preparation that we formulated muscle memory and mental retention! We built legs and arms, core, and back strength! We understood direction and teamwork. stamina, and mobility! We were taught "swag and poise." (I know, we don't use those terms anymore, but they are applicable.) We built confidence! All of this in preparation... for game time!

In life, God has to holler, "Take it back!" In everything: health, relationships, entrepreneurship, work, school ... We get upset because we have to go back and go through pain, anguish, and frustration over and over again. But, to be honest, you don't have it yet! You haven't developed discipline or the ability to say no. Boundaries, as well as focus, intentionality, and determination, have not been learned! You haven't realized your purpose



or level of importance to Him. You aren't ready yet, so He has to take you back through something to prepare you for what He has for you!

With everything in life, repetition makes things stick! They allow you to understand what the true lesson is in the midst of confusion. This strengthens, trains, and teaches you!!

Let's do our due diligence to grasp these things and push forward. Game time is coming, whether

you're ready or not! So when God hollers, "Take it Back", be intentional about your moves and pay attention. He is preparing you! It's all for your benefit!

Make this week amazing. Learn something new. Pay attention to what you've been through. Reflect, and

God loves you, and so do I! He has given you a gift, open it.

Exodus 23:20

"Behold, I send an angel before you to guard you

on the way and to bring

- 2 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;
- 3 Knowing this, that the trying of your faith wor-
- 4 But let patience have her

you to the place that I have prepared."

James 1:2-4

- keth patience.
- perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing*.







Perspectives on **God Views Current News**

"Daily Bread" Prayers Get Results! (Part 3 of 4)

On February 2nd, President Biden again keynoted the National Prayer Breakfast; but his 2022 address still resonates with me.

Then, he recounted the final words of his older son, Beau Biden, on his deathbed in 2015: "Dad, promise me — promise me, Dad, you're going to stay involved."

He incorporated his promise to Beau into his daily prayers. His hard work and answered prayers resulted in his election as the 46th U.S. President.

Biden's actions mimicked Iesus' counsel to his disciples, "Give us this day our daily bread" Luke 11:3.

Prayer became Biden's daily bread.

Over the last two weeks, I shared how prayer is not only needed but should be practiced as our "daily bread." Prayer also should be our "national breakfast."

Branded as the day's most important meal breakfast breaks our overnight fast, restores energy levels, and jump-starts alertness for getting results.

Prayer as our daily bread brings results. One of Christianity's central historical figures gave us the best

example of effective daily prayer.

Martin Luther (prayer) King!

Protestant reformer Martin Luther once said: "I have so much to do today



that I'm going to need to spend at least three hours in prayer in order to be able to get it all done."

Can you imagine if you and I like Martin Luther were to spend three hours each day in prayer - that is, approximately 11 and one-half minutes each hour of your 16-hour waking hours?

If and when we attempt it, then you and I would become unstoppable, emptied of self, and totally surrendered to God's will and his ways for our lives.

In My Utmost for His Highest, Oswald Chambers wrote: "If you will give God your right to yourself, He will make a holy experiment out of you - and His experiments always succeed."

Game on, count me in! If you and I are serious about getting successful results, then let's eat Martin Luther's "daily bread."



Tim Allston Leadership Coach & Three-time Amazon Best-Selling Author Leading from the Middle leadingfromthemiddle@gmail.com

Community Foundation of Huntsville Holds Meeting on "The Hill"



COMMUNITY

TODAY

"Racial Equity Fund"
Thursday, February 9, 2023
Alabama A&M University - Ernest L. Knight Center















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AAMU Alum's Video Featured During Super Bowl

About five years ago, Alabama A&M University graduate and filmmakerphotographer Lance Piri captured the fiery motivational speech of YouTube sensation William King Hollis. The charismatic Hollis was addressing a Sparkman High School team whose feet were inches away from a bus that would transport them to a championship contest.

Before long Piri's video of Hollis had become viral. Somewhere along the way, the NFL got wind of the video, and last weekend it made it into prominence again in grand Super Bowl prominence. The two first received noticed about the possibility of the video receiving some extra traction nearly six months ago.

The video was worked into the coveted schedule on the Saturday before the Super Bowl and on Sunday, February 12, before Super Bowl kickoff.

Approximately six years ago, Piri said goodbye to his engineering job in order to pursue his passion for filmmaking and photography full-time.

Launching
his career as a
member of the
media crew
for the mighty
Marching Maroon and White
Band of his
beloved AAMU
and as popular
graduation and
wedding photographey, Piri
has not looked
back.

Born in Huntsville, Ala., into an ambitious family of AAMU-Nigerian graduates, Piri is a twin and 2012 Johnson High School grad who said his family has always em-

braced and fully supported his dreams. He continued and completed his degree in mechanical engineering at AAMU, even as his passion for filmmaking and photography bloomed.

The showing of his work at the Super Bowl was but one highlight of 2023, Piri



said. In November, the same month his favorite marching band will be performing in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, Piri will be getting married to fiance Victoria Zeigler.

For additional information about Piri's Super Bowl gift, contact lance. piri@gmail.com.

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"2023 Sponsors" is a weekly feature sponsored by the Rosetta James Foundation to promote volunteerism and activism in our community among those who are 70-plus. The Foundation also provides scholarships. Learn more about us at www.rosettajamesfoundation.org. Know an outstanding elder (70+) that you would like to see featured? Send us a photo and 250-word write-up to info@valleyweeklyllc.com.

Talley Weekly Long-time Alabama A&M Food Service Director Retiring

When Felicia Mastin Wilson entered the food service facility in Prentice Hall at then Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical "College" more than 55 years ago, the now 6,000-student campus was a much smaller, more intimate space.

Aretha was in her prime as Queen of Soul; FM radio

While in school, Felicia Wilson worked as a student employee for dining services and upon graduation joined the company managing those services on campus, ARA Services. She went on to serve in a number of roles, contributing to the success of the dining program and began her legacy of impacting

Donovan, during his praise of Mrs. Wilson in 2021.

Surely, her decades as Food Service Director and General Manager are highlighted by countless innovations designed to enhance students' dining experience, from Super Bowl and tailgating events and themes to Valentine's Day motifs to "Pancake

others. She has also served on many local boards and countless committees onand off-campus. She is a member of Saint Bartley Primitive Baptist Church.

Especially looking forward to sharing her new retirement is her husband Wester "Bob" Wilson. She will give motherly advice and wisdom—when asked—to Sonjia, Mark, Monique and Eve, as well as loving sons-in-law Percy and Michael, but will always be "in the business" of grandchildren Alex, Preston and Emery. Additionally, there will be more time to plan "mini-feasts" with brother Robert "Mr. Bob" Mastin and sisters Mary Dorsey and Cynthia McCollum.

"My time at A&M has



been such a central part of my life and the life of my family," Wilson said. "I have collected enough memories to carry me through several lifetimes. I am grateful to A&M for believing in me and supporting me through its growth and my growth. I leave my role in very good hands."

by Jerome Saintjones



was gaining popularity; the Tet Offensive of the Vietnam War had impacted American sentiment; and AAMU President Richard David Morrison was slowly setting in motion his justifications to change the school from "College" to "University."

A native of South Pittsburgh, Tennessee, Wilson moved to Huntsville, Alabama, when she was around four years old. The duties of her military father took the family overseas for several years, but she returned to Huntsville, where she attended William Hooper Councill and S.R. Butler high schools, as well as AAMU, where she earned a bachelor's degree.

the lives of thousands of students, faculty and staff at AAMU.

Just two years ago, AAMU and Aramark Collegiate Hospitality officials and other members of the AAMU Family gathered for the naming of the Felicia M. Wilson Dining Hall in the Ernest L. Knight Complex, a celebration of decades of service.

"Our honoree, Mrs. Wilson, has enhanced the lives of so many people, and by doing so has nurtured this University, her community and her family, and has touched people around the world through the example she provides for us all," stated Aramark Collegiate Hospitality CEO Jack

Nights." To make dining even more special, she consistently secured the expertise of staff, designers and specialty chefs.

Now, Wilson is punctuating those 55 eventful years with the beginning of a new phase of life in the form of retirement. She not only holds a historic record of accomplishments in food service at AAMU, but she has undoubtedly set many records for Aramark, as well.

Wilson has been and remains active in numerous organizations, including The Links Inc. of Greater Huntsville, Epsilon Gamma Omega chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., and many

